



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Title: APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING THERMAL DOSING IN A THERMAL TREATMENT SYSTEM

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AMENDMENT

In response to the Office action mailed on November 22, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a clean version of the entire set of pending claims. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.21(c)(1)(ii), attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

Cancel claims 3 and 16-17. Amend claims 1 and 15 as follows:

1. (Amended) A thermal treatment system, comprising:
- a heat applying element for generating a thermal dose used to ablate a target mass in a patient;
  - a controller for controlling thermal dose properties of the heat applying element;
  - an imager for providing preliminary images of the target mass;
  - a planner for automatically constructing a treatment plan, comprising a series of treatment sites that are each represented by a set of thermal dose properties;
  - wherein the planner automatically constructs the treatment plan based on input information including one or more of:
    - a volume of the target mass,